

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as set forth in the following listing. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims for the present application.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for web sites in a hierarchical relationship to share assets, comprising:
  - a server machine running an asset sharing management application configured for asset sharing management; and
  - two or more web sites operating on one or more server machines including the server machine;
  - wherein the two or more web sites comprise a first hierarchically organized pair of parent and child web sites;
  - wherein the parent and child web sites have different domain names;
  - wherein the parent web site utilizes one or more assets in the presentation of the parent web site; and
  - wherein the parent and child web sites are configured to share the one or more assets of the parent web site using a set of asset sharing modes defined via the application running on the server machine, the set of asset sharing modes including a first mode, a second mode, and a third mode;
  - wherein in the first mode, both the parent and child web sites are able to utilize an asset of the parent web site, but only the parent web site is able to modify the asset;
  - wherein in the second mode, both the parent and child web sites are able to utilize and modify the asset of the parent web site;
  - wherein in the third mode, both the parent and the child web sites have equal rights to utilize and modify the asset of the parent web site, wherein the child web site is able to utilize the asset of the parent web site until the child web site attempts to modify the asset of the parent web site, at which time a copy of the asset of the parent web site is generated, wherein the child web site is able to modify the copy of the asset, and wherein the asset of the parent web site is no longer shared between the parent web site and the child web site; and

wherein at least one of the one or more assets of the parent web site is shared between the parent and the child web sites in the third mode as a result of a setting in the application running on the server machine.

2. (Currently Amended) The web site system of claim 1, wherein the two or more web sites operating on the server further comprise a second hierarchically organized pair of parent and child web sites,

wherein the second hierarchically organized pair of parent and child web sites have different domain names,

wherein the child web site of the second hierarchically organized pair is a descendant of the child web site of the first hierarchically organized pair, and

wherein the child web site of the first hierarchically organized pair and the descendant are configured to share one or more assets of the child web site of the first hierarchically organized pair using one or more of the first, second and third modes.

3. (Previously Presented) The web site system of claim 2, wherein if an asset shared between the child web site of the first hierarchically organized pair and the descendant is also shared between the parent and the child web sites of the first hierarchically organized pair, the asset is shared between the child web site of the first hierarchically organized pair and the descendant in a mode which is no less restrictive than the mode in which the asset is shared between the parent and the child web sites of the first hierarchically organized pair.

4. (Currently Amended) The web site system of claim 1, wherein the parent and the child web sites having different domain names share a plurality of assets as a set.

5. (Previously Presented) The web site system of claim 1, wherein the parent and the child web sites share one or more assets individually.

6. (Previously Presented) The web site system of claim 1, wherein the parent web site has one or more assets which are not shared with the child web site.

7. (Previously Presented) The web site system of claim 1, wherein the child web site has one or more assets which are not shared with the parent web site.

8. (Previously Presented) The web site system of claim 1, wherein each web site of the two or more web sites operating on the server is operable to share assets only with direct descendants of the web site.

9.-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) A method at least partially performed by a computer program, the method comprising:

at a server computer connected to client computers over a network, selecting an asset of a first object, wherein the asset is used in the presentation of a web site operating on the server computer, wherein the web site comprises one or more web pages referencing a first domain name and a plurality of assets, wherein the plurality of assets comprises architectural assets and features of the web site, wherein the architectural assets of the web site comprise a channel, wherein the features of the web site comprise an image, and wherein the selected asset is one of the features of the web site or one of the architectural assets of the web site; and

sharing the selected asset with a second object, wherein the second object is a child of the first object in a hierarchical structure of a set of web sites having different domain names, wherein the child is a child web site comprising one or more web pages referencing a second domain name, wherein the first and second domain names are different;

wherein sharing the selected asset comprises setting an asset sharing mode that enables the second object to utilize the selected asset of the first object until the second object attempts to modify the selected asset of the first object, making a copy of the selected asset of the first object when the second object attempts to modify the selected asset of the first object and thereafter disabling the second object's ability to utilize the selected

asset of the first object and enabling the second object to modify and utilize the copy of the selected asset; and  
presenting the child web site with the modified copy of the selected asset to the client computers over the network.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising sharing a second asset of the first object with the second object, wherein sharing the second asset comprises enabling the first object to utilize and modify the second asset, enabling the second object to utilize the second asset and preventing the second object from modifying the second asset.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising sharing a second asset of the first object with the second object, wherein sharing the second asset comprises enabling the first object and the second object to utilize and modify the second asset.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable storage medium containing instructions configured to cause a computer to perform ~~the method comprising:~~  
at a server computer connected to client computers over a network:  
selecting two objects which have different domain names and which have a hierarchical relationship, wherein a first one of the objects is a parent of a second one of the objects; and  
wherein the first object has one or more assets; and  
setting an asset sharing mode for the second object to share an asset of the first object in which both the first object and the second object have equal rights to utilize and modify the asset of the first object, wherein the second object is able to utilize the asset of the first object until the second object attempts to modify the asset of the first object, at which time a copy of the asset of the first object is generated, where the second object is able to utilize and modify the copy of the asset, and wherein the asset of the first object is no longer shared between the first object and the second object;

setting an asset sharing mode in which at least one of the selected assets of the first object is shared between the first and the second objects in the third mode.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein if an asset shared between the first object and the second object is also shared between the second object and the third object, the asset is shared between the second object and the third object in a mode which is no less restrictive than the mode in which the asset is shared between the first object and the second object.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the first object and the second object share a plurality of assets as a set.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein the set comprises a class of assets.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the class of assets is a child of a base asset class.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the first object and the second object share one or more assets individually.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the first object utilizes one or more assets which are not shared with the second object.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the second object utilizes one or more assets which are not shared with the first object.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein each object shares assets only with direct descendants of the object.

30. (Cancelled).

31. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the parent web site contains the one or more assets shared between the parent and the child web sites and wherein the child web site contains references to the one or more assets of the parent web site.

32. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the asset sharing management application is configured to generate management pages for the child web site.